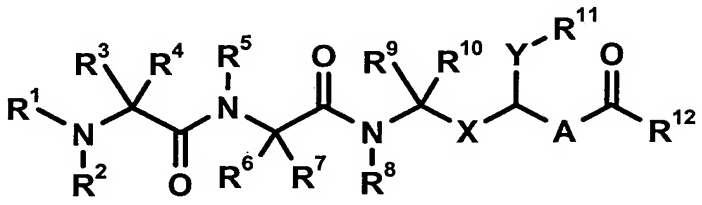
Patent Claims

1. Compounds of the general formula U-V-W, wherein U refers to the formula (I),



(I)

wherein

A is a optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroarylen ring;
X is an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, a group of the formula NR^{13} or $CR^{14}R^{15}$;
Y is an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a group of the formula NR^{16} and
the residues R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15} and R^{16} are independentely from each other a hydrogen atom, a alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl heteroalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, alkylcycloalkyl, heteroalkylcycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aralkyl or a heteroaralkyl group, or two of the groups are together part of a cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring system,
V is a linker and W a polymer or a biomolecule.

2. Compounds according to claim 1, wherein the compound of the formula (I) is Tubulysin A.

3. Compounds according to the claims 1 or 2, wherein the polymer is a polyethylene glycol (PEG).

4. Compounds according to the claim 3, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of more than 30 kDa.

5. Compounds according to the claims 1 or 2, wherein the biomolecule is an antibody.

6. Use of a bioconjugate according to one of the claims 1 to 5 for the treatment of cancer.